SESSION LAW 2005-276 SENATE BILL 622

AN ACT TO MAKE BASE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS, INSTITUTIONS, AND AGENCIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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LONG-TERM PLAN FOR MEETING MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES NEEDS

SECTION 10.24.(a) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services shall, in consultation with interested advocacy groups and affected State and local agencies, develop a long-range plan for addressing the mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services needs of the State. The plan shall be consistent with the plan developed pursuant to G.S. 122C-102 and shall address the following:

The services needed at the community level within each LME in order to ensure an adequate level of services to the average number of persons needing the services based on population projections.

The **full continuum of services** needed for each disability group within an LME, including:

a. Which services could be regional or multi-LME based;

b. What percent of the population each LME would expect to use State-level facilities; and

c. An inventory of existing services within each LME for

each disability group, and the gaps that exist;

(3) **Projected growth** in services for each disability group within each LME or region that can reasonably be managed over the ensuing five-year period; and

(4) Projected start-up costs and the total funding needed in each year from the Trust Fund for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services and Bridge Funding

Needs to implement the long-range plan.

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SECTION 10.24.(c) Not later than **March 1, 2006**, the Department of Health and Human Services shall report on the implementation of this section to the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services, and the Fiscal Research Division.

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